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EVIL FLOWERS

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AMAKUSA 1637
アマクサ MICHITO AKAIRI PRESENTS

SPLASH
SPLASH
The moment in which the Shimabara Amakusa riot was said to have started in the history of 1636,
could possibly be today.

We have yet to prepare anything.
It's too soon. It's too soon.
There is still some time before history repeats itself.
AH, I'M GOING TO JOIN YATSUKA FOR A WHILE
HEY YOU! WHERE THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!
WALKS STRAIGHT PAST
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YATSUKA AFTER ALL. I WONDER IF I SHOULD CHASE AFTER HIM.
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GRAB
YOU'RE TRYING TO ESCAPE, AREN'T YOU!
WOOSH
EHHH
CHARGE
WAHH...!
BAM

Is he... human..?
He... he snatched the sword with his bare hands!
AFTER ALL, I CAN'T LEAVE.
IT SHOULD BE FINE IF I ENTER HERE, RIGHT?
I'M SORRY. IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO WATCH OVER ME, ISN'T IT?
THUMP
CRASH
...
IF I WERE TO LEAVE, YOU'D BE IN TROUBLE, WOULDN'T YOU?

I WON'T KILL PEOPLE — SO EASILY.
WH. . WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL ME? YOU COULD HAVE EASILY KILLED ME IF YOU WANTED TO—
HMM, DID I GET SOME ON ME WHEN I WAS CARRYING MY BABY EARLIER THIS MORNING?
SNIFF SNIFF
HOW DO I KNOW THAT? WELL, YOU HAVE THE SCENT OF MILK ON YOU. . SO I WAS WONDERING IF YOU HAD A CHILD..
FURTHERMORE, YOU HAVE A CHILD, DON'T YOU?
WELL...
YOUR CHILD HAS JUST BEEN BORN, RIGHT? HE OR SHE MUST BE ADORABLE
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
AH!
HOW... HOW DO YOU EVEN KNOW THAT?!

IF WE DON'T BUILD A WORLD WHERE CHILDREN ARE NOT KILLED,
YOUR CHILD WILL STARVE TO DEATH LIKE THE CHILDREN IN THE VILLAGE.
CHILDREN ARE IMPORTANT.
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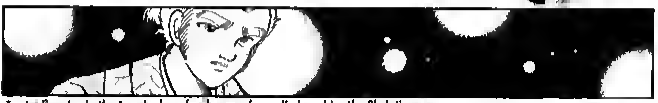
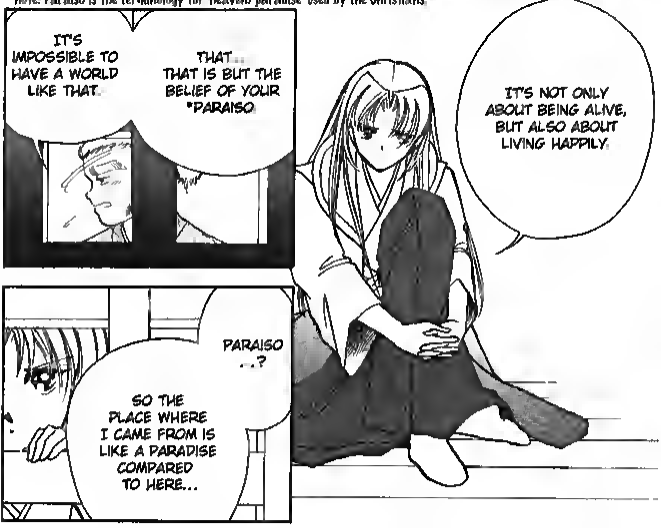


*note: Paraiso is the terminology for 'heaven/paradise' used by the Christians.


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE A WORLD LIKE THAT.
THAT... THAT IS BUT THE BELIEF OF YOUR *PARAISO.
IT'S NOT ONLY ABOUT BEING ALIVE, BUT ALSO ABOUT LIVING HAPPILY.
PARAISO...?
SO THE PLACE WHERE I CAME FROM IS LIKE A PARADISE COMPARED TO HERE...

Hee?
FLAP
FLAP
GASP
BEYOND THAT CRIMSON SKY
THE CRIMSON SKY...?
Is there really such a thing as God's messenger?
I... what was I just thinking about...?
He came from Paraiso...
God's messenger...
I must have been fascinated by him.
Could I have been deceived by him?
If I don't kill...

He's dangerous!
If I don't kill him now...
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
YATSUKA-SAMA, IT'S OVER THERE!
IT SEEMS TO BE QUITE A CONSIDERABLE GATHERING!
SHALL WE TRAMPLE THROUGH THE CROWD?

*note. The man mistakenly used 'Oratio' which is a term for prayer (used by the Christians) instead of Oratorio - a large musical composition, usually with a religious theme.

A SONG...?
WHAT IS IT? THIS IS...
I CAN HEAR... SOMETHING...
SIR, IT SHOULD BE FINE TO SEIZE ALL OF THEM SINCE THEY ARE CHRISTIANS
IS THIS WHAT THEY CALL THE CHRISTIANS' *'ORATIO'?
YATSUKA-SAMA?
HOLD ON.

THIS IS NOT A PRAYER.. IT'S..
HUH?
IT'S BEETHOVEN'S FOURTH MOVEMENT
IT'S THE "9TH SYMPHONY"
IN A PLACE SUCH AS THIS .. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HEAR..
THIS SONG
EVERYONE, STAY HERE!
YATSUKA-SAMA!

*note. Beethoven completed his Symphony No. 9 in 1823. However Natsuki and friends are in 1936

IT UNIFIES OUR HEARTS AND CLEANSES OUR SOULS
SUCH A JOYOUS SONG... THE ANGEL HAS ARRIVED...
CLICK
CLICK
Ha?
WAAH! IT'S THE FALCON LORD!
RUN, EVERYONE, RUN! IT'S THE FALCON LORD!
FALCON LORD?
SEIKA-SAMA, PLEASE RUN! HURRY!
WAIT... WAIT A MINUTE!

"THE 9TH SYMPHONY" SURE BRINGS BACK SOME FOND MEMORIES.
THAT WAS OUR HAPPY SONG
YOU ARE STILL THE SAME AS EVER, WITH YOUR BEAUTIFUL SINGING...
AKISHIMA
WHAT 'SINGING' ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
MY, YOU HAVE AGED, HAVEN'T YOU, YATSUKA?

WELL, LONG TIME NO SEE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. AFTER ALL, I WAS HERE WAY BEFORE YOU.
YES, IT HAS BEEN QUITE A WHILE, YATSUKA!
SEIKA-SAMA AND LORD FALCON ARE —
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY ARE ON GOOD TERMS?!
HA! IT'S GOOD TO KNOW THAT NATSUKI IS WITH YOU. I WAS TOLD BY ERI THAT IT'S TOO SOON FOR THE RIOT TO START AND SHE SENT ME HERE TO STOP THESE PEOPLE TOO.
We talked on the phone though.
HEY, YOU AREN'T HERE TO KILL EVERYONE, ARE YOU?
AHH, NATSUKI TOLD ME TO STOP ALL THESE PEOPLE.

SO, DID YOU STOP THEM WITH YOUR SONGS?
AND YOU TAUGHT THEM 'THE 9TH SYMPHONY'?
Y-E-S! WE SING TO THE JOY OF LIFE!
YES, I HAVE BEEN TEACHING THEM TO SING AS A CHORUS.
IT'S NOT SILLY, IS IT? TO UNITE THEM AS ONE
BUT THIS SONG DOESN'T EXIST YET, DOES IT? WHAT A MESS.
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YOU'LL HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO BEETHOVEN IF YOU MEET HIM.
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YATSUKA-SAMA?
A LADY WHO SEEMS TO BE FROM THE SOUTHERN REGION IS WITH HIM
YOU REALLY ARE A SLAPDASH!
YA.. YATSUKA-SAMA, PLEASE ALLOW US TO HELP

DON'T LIE! PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THESE PEOPLE. THEY ARE MOST LIKELY EYEING IT ——
NO! WE WERE ONLY SINGING!
THESE PEOPLE HAVE SURROUNDED THE WAREHOUSE WITH THE INTENTION TO DESTROY IT ——
OUR ELDERS ARE DYING ONE AFTER ANOTHER
OUR CHILDREN WERE LIVING ENTIRELY ON WATER FOR THE PAST SIX DAYS
HA, HUH?!
OPEN THE WARE-HOUSE!

URGH!
SWIFTLY
BU... BUT THE RICE FROM THE ANNUAL TRIBUTE WOULD ——
THAT'S ENOUGH! OPEN THE WAREHOUSE!
IF GOD'S MESSENGER HAS SAID SO, SO BE IT!
THERE'S NO REASON TO SHED BLOOD HERE!
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?! COLLECT YOUR RICE AND RETURN HOME!
I HEARD HIM SAY, 'GOD'S MESSENGER'
GO.. GOD?!

HURRY UP! OPEN THE WAREHOUSE!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
YATSUKA -SAMA?!
GALLOP
WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH THE WAREHOUSE?
HOW DO WE EXPLAIN THIS TO HIS LORDSHIP ——
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT WE CANNOT ALLOW A RIOT TO START NOW?!

COUNTLESS PEOPLE WILL LOSE THEIR LIVES ——
IF A RIOT STARTS NOW, IT WILL SPREAD ACROSS THE ENTIRE AMAKUSA AND SHIMABARA
BU... BUT.
GOD'S MESSENGER MUST HAVE HELPED US WITH THESE.
IT'S SAID THAT GOD'S MESSENGER HAS APPEARED.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, YATSUKA -SAMA!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WHY DID YOU DO THIS, YATSUKA-SAMA? IS IT BECAUSE OF THE FELLOW THAT CAME TO THE CASTLE?

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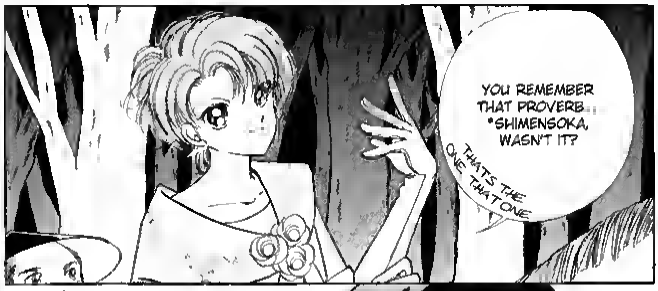
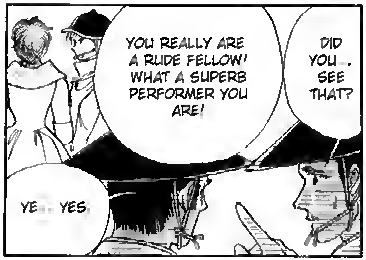
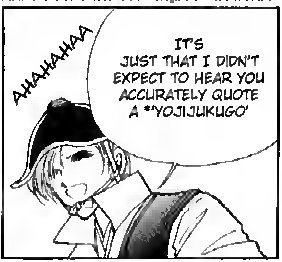
POINTS
HII?!
THAT FELLOW WHO CAME...
LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE MASUDA SHIROU
IF YOU TALK ANY MORE, I'LL KILL YOU
YATSUKA
LET'S RETURN!
YES! I WANT TO SEE NATSUKI
DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME?

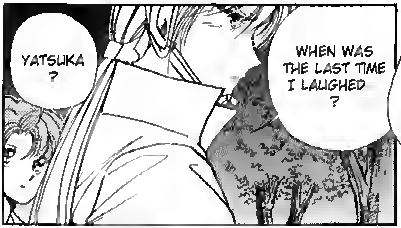
*note. Shimensoka 四面楚歌 is a proverb from China. During a battle in BC 209 a warlord named Xiang Yu was surrounded by his enemies and estranged at a spot. One night Xiang Yu's enemies started singing the songs of Xiang Yu's homeland from all around, prompting Xiang Yu to assume that his fellow countrymen were captured and in the enemies troops. He also assumed that his country had been taken down since the songs of his homeland could be heard everywhere. Xiang Yu was devastated and dashed out with his remaining army of 800. He lost the battle that night and committed suicide. The proverb has since used to describe people in an extremely desperate state, isolated and besieged on all sides.



*note. 'Yojijukugo' is a linguistics term for a 4-word idiom. These idioms are all in a set of 4-words and originated from China







UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T HAVE A HANDKERCHIEF NOW, BUT I DO HAVE A TOWEL.
WHAT'S THAT FOR?
YOU'RE CRYING, YATSUKA.
So easily..
I DON'T NEED IT
IS THAT.. SO?

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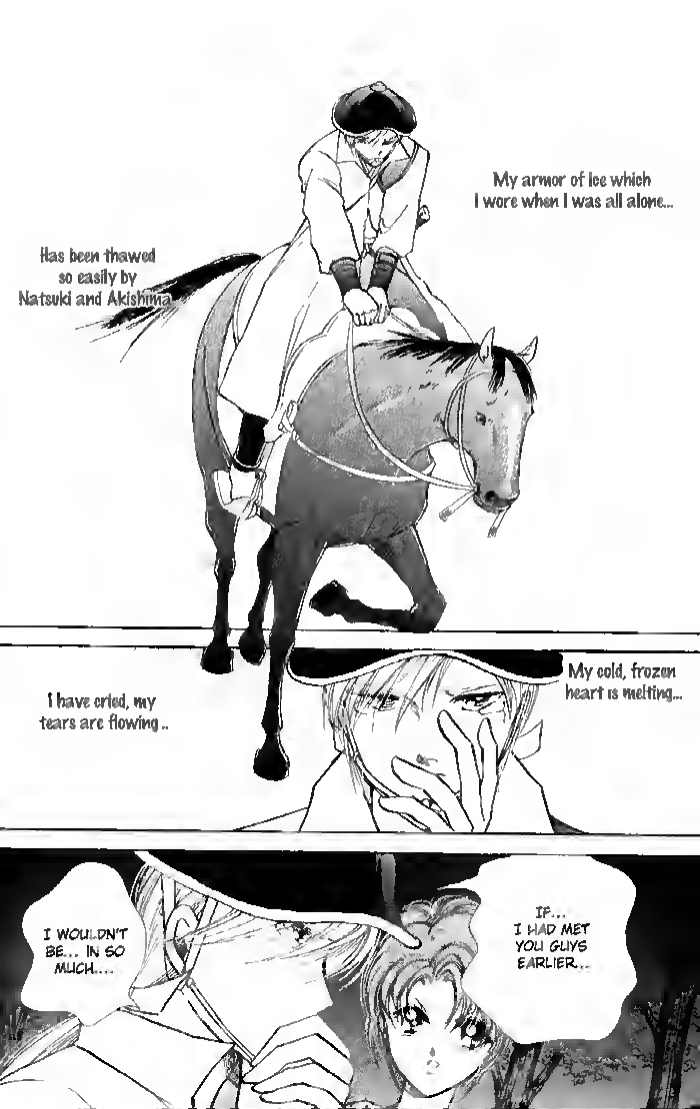
My armor of ice which I wore when I was all alone...
Has been thawed so easily by Natsuki and Akishima
My cold, frozen heart is melting...
I have cried, my tears are flowing..
IF... I HAD MET YOU GUYS EARLIER...
I WOULDN'T BE... IN SO MUCH....

I WOULDN'T HAVE KILLED ANY MEN WITH THESE HANDS...
YOU'VE SEEN IT, HAVEN'T YOU? I GOVERN THIS AREA USING FEAR.
IN ORDER TO SURVIVE... I WAS SO DESPERATE...
I HAVE KILLED COUNTLESS MEN...
YOU'D DEFINITELY BE SHOCKED IF YOU KNEW EVERYTHING...
AND ON TOP OF ALL THAT...

Hmph.
I DON'T BELIEVE IN THINGS LIKE THAT...
THIS IS PROBABLY GOD'S WILL!
TOMIOKAJOU

The riot may have started by now —— did Yatsuka manage to stop it?
I'm at the end of my rope...
YES, AND YATSUKA HAS RETURNED TO BEING OUR FRIEND!
AH, ERI? YES, I'M FINE, BUT I'M AT YATSUKA'S PLACE NOW
OOH!
P-PEEP-PEEP-PEEP-
The sky is crimson over there... Paradise...
Who? Who is he talking to?!
What is that? What's with that little box?

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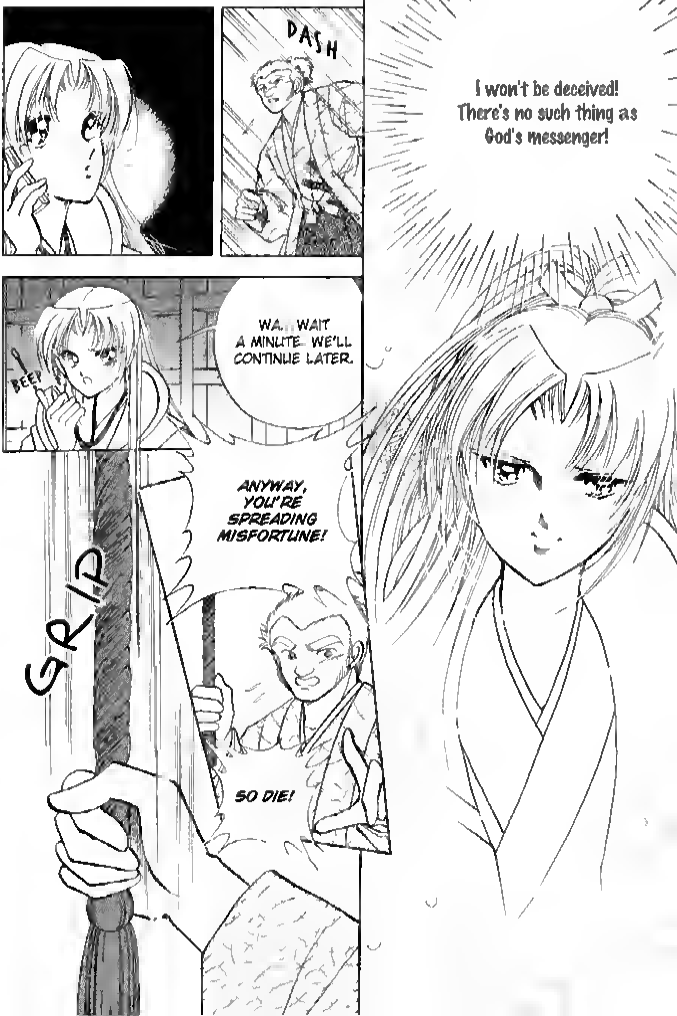
I won't be deceived! There's no such thing as God's messenger!
DASH
BEEP
WA... WAIT A MINUTE. WE'LL CONTINUE LATER.
ANYWAY, YOU'RE SPREADING MISFORTUNE!
GRIP
SO DIE!

UWWAH!
STAB
SIGH...
CRAWL
CRAWL
CRAWL
URGH...

YOU'RE DEAD! THOSE ARE VIPERS! IF YOU'RE BITTEN, YOU'LL DIE INSTANTLY!
URGH...
MIYAMOTO!
WAAAAAH!
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH

rolling
rolling
rolling
FOLLOW ME, GINJI
DOCK
YES, SIR!
NATSUKI
IMPACT

STACK IT OVER THERE!
THUD
ALRIGHT, PASS!
rolling
rolling
rolling
SLASH
UH? WHAT'S WITH YOU?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

Amazing...
Shirou's sword is akin to a gale..
Whereas Musashi-dono's sword is like a bolt of lightning
WOOSH
HEY, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?!
IF YOU ARE REALLY GOD'S MESSENGER, THEN GOD WILL SURELY HELP YOU, RIGHT?
WHIP
FALL!
URGH..

SLIP
AHH...
Damn...
WHO'S THERE?!
INTRUDERS!
GASP
WHERE ARE YOU, NATSUKI?

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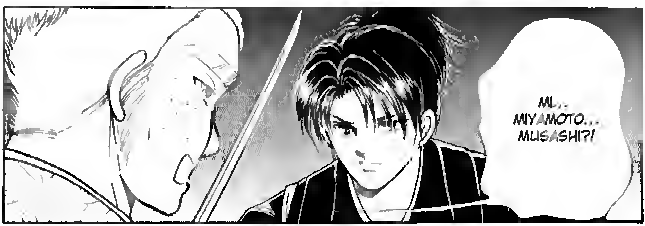
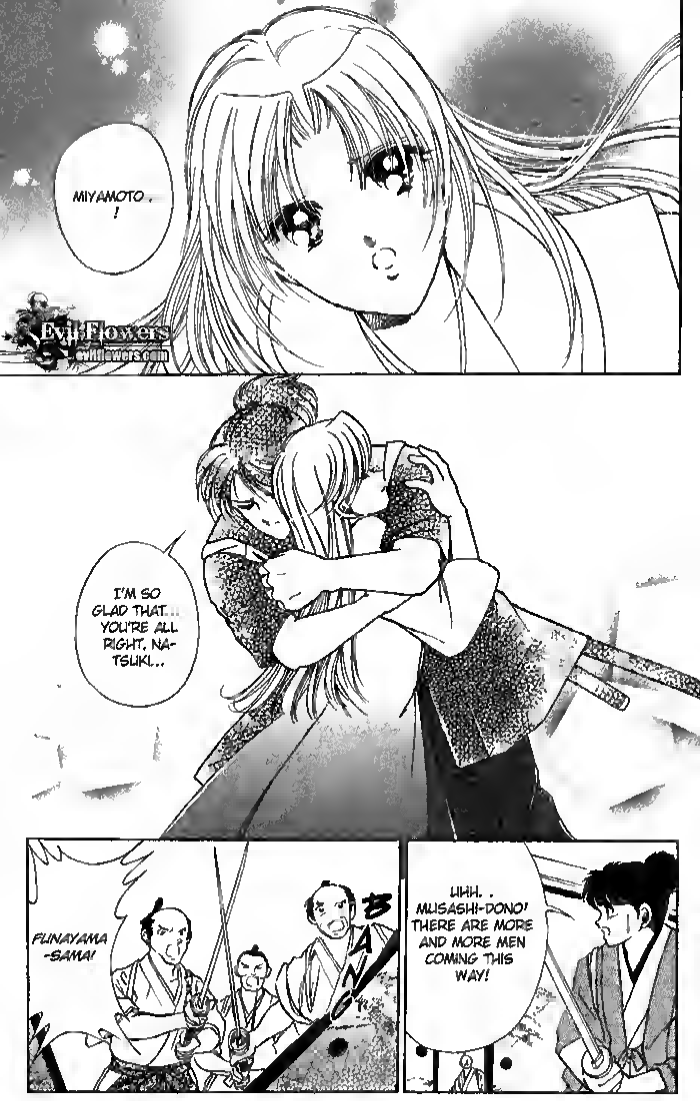
WHAT... WHO ARE YOU!?
IS IT HERE?
FLING
I'M MIYAMOTO MUSAKI.
I'M ALSO KNOWN AS MIYAMOTO MUSASHI


MI... MIYAMOTO... MUSASHI?!

PUNCH
GET OUT OF MY WAY!
NAT-SUKI!
MIYA-MOTO...!
AHH...!

SORRY, I'VE KEPT YOU WAITING.
GRAB


MIYAMOTO..!
I'M SO GLAD THAT... YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, NATSUKI...
FUNAYAMA-SAMA!
BANG
UHH.. MUSASHI-DONO! THERE ARE MORE AND MORE MEN COMING THIS WAY!

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URGH...
KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
THEY ARE INTRU-DERS!
Wh
why...?
Why would such a famous man as Miyamoto Musashi be here?
URGH..
He said he was Miyamoto Musashi.
UHH...
OOOH...
!
STOP!

YATSUKA!
YA- YATSUKA-SAMA!
H-E-L-L-O NATSUKI! LONG TIME NO SEE!
MIYAMOTO, HAVE YOU REMEMBERED ME?
BY THE WAY, HAVEN'T YOU AGED QUITE A BIT?
DON'T PUT IT THAT WAY.
WHO ARE YOU TO SAY THAT?! HAVEN'T YOU AGED AS WELL?!
SO, YOUR MEMORIES HAVE RETURNED?
WAH! IT'S SEIKA! ♡
WA! ♡

THIS IS ALL JUST A MISUNDER-STANDING ON FUNAYAMA'S PART. RIGHT, FUNAYAMA?
STEP BACK. THIS MAN, MIYAMOTO MUSASHI IS THE MESSENGER FROM *KOKURA HAN
AH...
GAPE
*note Refer to the explanation in chapter 10 page 4
YE...
THAT'S... BUT...
YOU DISOBEYED MY ORDER AND TRIED TO KILL THIS MAN, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU...
BEHAVE YOURSELF! THE REST OF YOU RETREAT AS WELL!

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LET'S GATHER EVERYONE
THEN IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR US TO START GETTING SERIOUS...
TOGETHER WITH ERI AND EIJI AT SHIMABARA
*note: Toyotoyo Hideyoshi (1537-1598) was a military commander in the Sengoku era Luzon is the current Philippines.
FOR NOW, I INTEND TO PROCURE ALL OF THESE WEAPONS
ACCORDING TO ERI, IN *HIDEYOSHI'S TIME, GUNS HAVE BEEN PREPARED IN ORDER TO ATTACK LUZON
I'VE ALSO HEARD THAT THERE ARE LOTS OF RIFLES HERE

ARE YOU GUYS WITH ME?
THEN THE CAUSE OF THEIR DEFEAT WILL BE COMPLETELY REMOVED
CAN WE?
WE CAN'T REALLY IGNORE THE DEATH OF 30,000 PEOPLE,
OF COURSE SINCE IT'S NATSUKI... IT'D TURN OUT LIKE THAT
ARE YOU... SERIOUS?
'REVOLT' IS WHAT SHAKES IT.
'CHANGE' IS WHAT SHAPES THE GOVERNMENT.
WE HAVE STUDIED HISTORY.

「AMAKUSA 1637」

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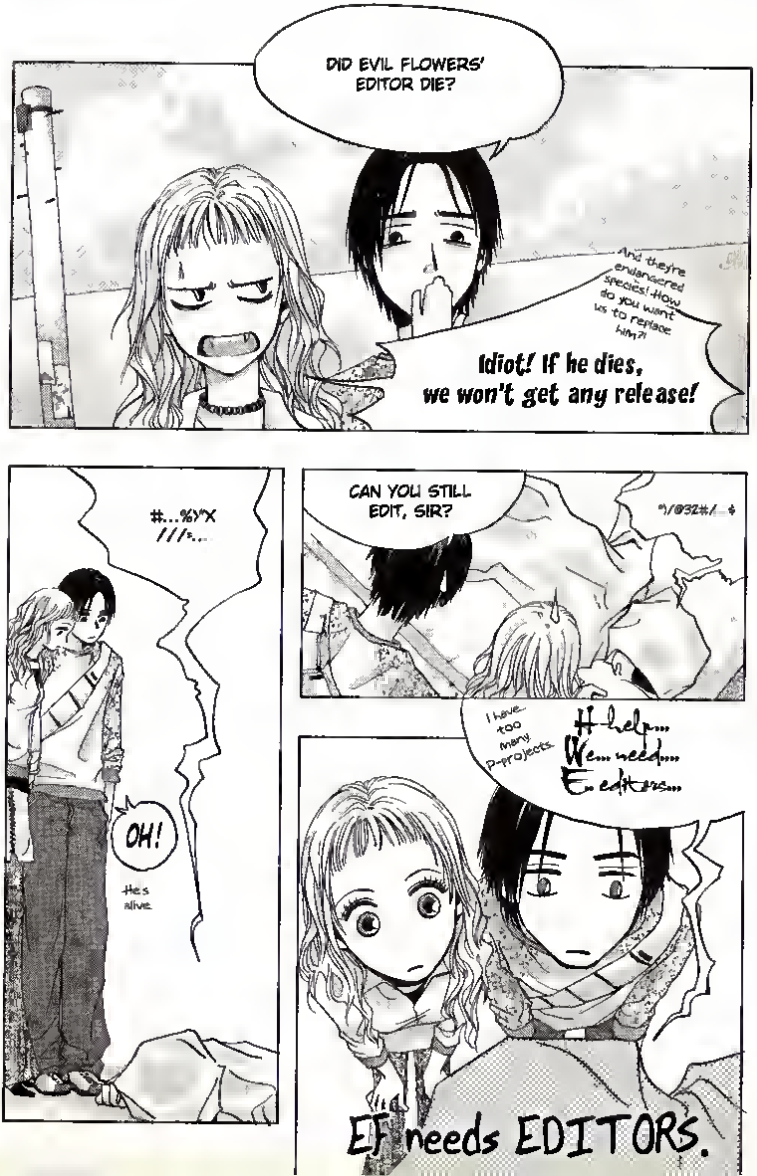
フラワーコミックス

夏月を中心に生徒会メンバーが
島原・天草地方で再び出会いはじめた。
そんななか、ますます激しくなってゆく
幕府側の切支丹狩り。
飢えや貧困に苦しむ人びとは、
さまざまな奇跡をおこしつつ"四郎"として
生きる夏月に強い救いを求める。
一方、幕府側の人間である八冢、宮本、


DID EVIL FLOWERS' EDITOR DIE?
And they're endangered species! How do you want us to replace him?!
Idiot! If he dies, we won't get any release!
#...%)*X ///...
OH!
He's alive
CAN YOU STILL EDIT, SIR?
*)/@32#/...
I have too many projects.
H-help... We...need... E-editors...
EF needs EDITORS.